

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GRENAD 00046 191616Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----005346 191617Z /43
O 191554Z JUN 77
FM USDEL GRENADA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0051

C O N F I D E N T I A L GRENADA 0046

EXDIS

FOR S/S RUST DEMING FROM MARK DION

FROM USDEL OASGA

USOAS DEL 34

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORT, OAS, OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)
SUBJ: SECRETARY'S BILATERAL WITH DR FONMIN JIMENEZ

1. PARTICIPANTS : US: THE SECRETARY, ROBERT E WHITE
(NOTETAKER), DOMINICAN REPUBLIC FON JIMENEZ, JUNE 16.
2. THE FOREIGN MINISTER VOLUNTEERED THAT THE DOMINICAN
REPUBLIC SHARED THE VIEWS OF THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT
WHICH HE EXPRESSED IN HIS EXCELLENT SPEECH.
3. REGARDING THE REDUCTION OF THE US QUOTA FROM 66 PERCENT
TO 49 PERCENT, THE FOREIGN MINISTER SAID THAT THIS WAS A RESONABLE
POSITION, BUT THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC COULD NOT SUPPORT IT
AT THIS TIME BECAUSE THEY WERE SOMEWHAT BEHIND IN THEIR
PAYMENTS. BUT THE SITUATION WOULD SOON BE REMEDIED,
HOWEVER. HE ADDED THAT THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IS IN
GENERAL AGREEMENT FOR REFORMING THE OAS.

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4. IN RESPONSE TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S REQUEST, THE
SECRETARY STATED THAT WE WOULD STUDY THE DOMICAN
REPUBLIC PROPOSAL ON TERRORISM. HE SAID HE WOULD
READ IT THIS AFTERNOON AND OUR DELEGATION WOULD BE IN
TOUCH WITH HIM.

5. IN RESPONSE TO THE SECRETARY'S QUESTION, THE FOREIGN

MINISTER STATED THAT THE TERRORISM THREAT IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC HAS BE SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED, THAT A THREAT SCARECLY EXISTS.

6. THERE FOLLOWED A LENGTHY EXCHANGE REGARDING THE ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC SINCE THE SECRETARY'S VISIT TO THAT COUNTRY IN 1965. IN RESPONSE TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S INVITATION, SECRETARY VANCE SAID HE WOULD CERTAINLY ENJOY VISITING THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AGAIN.

7. SECRETARY VANCE ASKED THE FOREIGN MINISTER REGARDING THE PROBLEMS THAT THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC FACED. IN PART HE ASKED ABOUT THE SUGAR SITUATION. THE DOMINICAN STATED THAT LOW PRICES FOR SUGAR AND HIGH PRICES FOR OIL HAVE BEEN A SEVERE BLOW FOR THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. IN RESPONSE TO THE SECRETARY'S QUESTION, THE FOREIGN MINISTER STATED THAT THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC HOPES THAT DISCUSSIONS WILL CONTINUE AND THAT A SUGAR AGREEMENT WILL BE ACHIEVED. HE ADDED THAT THE EUROPEANS HAD TAKEN A VERY TOUGH POSITION ON THIS PROBLEM. WE ARE MOST CONCERNED BECAUSE SUGAR ACCOUNTS FOR 85 PERCENT OF THE FOREIGN CURRENCY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. HE ADDED THAT WE FAVOR SUGAR QUOTAS AND WE BELIEVE THAT THE OLD PRODUCERS SHOULD GET A LARGER SHARE THAN THE NEW PRODUCERS.

8. THERE THEN FOLLOWED A GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE DOMIICAN REPUBLIC WHICH ALL AGREED WAS REMARKABLE.
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9. THE MINISTER STATED HE WAS MOST CONCERNED WHEN HE HEARD A PRESS REPORT THAT THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND THE US WERE AT ODDS WITH ONE ANOTHER ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND TERRORISM. HE TOLD THE PRESS THAT HE SHARED OUR POINT OF VIEW.

10. ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN EXPLAINED THAT WE HAD HEARD A RUMOUR THAT THE SOUTHERN CONE COUNTRIES WERE GOING TO GET TOGETHER AND PRESENT A COMMON RESOLUTION AND THAT THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC WAS GOING TO COOPERATE WITH THEM BY PRESENTING A RESOLUTION ON TERRORISM.

1. THE SECRETARY STATED THAT THERE IS NO CONFLICT BETWEEN TERRORISM AND HUMAN RIGHTS. HE ADDED THAT COUNTER-TERRORISM IS NOT THE WAY TO PUT DOWN TERRORISM.

12. THE FOREIGN MINISTER STATED THAT AS HE HAD TOLD AMBASSADOR HURWITCH THE INTENTION OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

TERRORISM RESOLUTION WAS TO BE CONCILIATORY. HE SAID THAT THE RESOLUTION CONTAINED NOTHING NEW AND SHOULD FIND ACCEPTANCE WITH ALL. THE MINISTER ASSERTED THAT IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR THE DOMINICAN RESOLUTION TO BE USED AGAINST THE US POSITION.

13. THE SECRETARY STATED THAT HE WOULD READ THE RESOLUTION ON THE PLANE AND GET WORD BACK TO THE MINISTER.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GRENAD00046
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770219-0058
Format: TEL
From: GRENADA
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770642/aaaabkha.tel
Line Count: 125
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0663827a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2101929
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S BILATERAL WITH DR FONMIN JIMENEZ
TAGS: PORG, OVIP, OAS, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (JIMENEZ)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0663827a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009